

October 17, 1953

Dear Werner:

Dr. Aleck Bernstein (an English bacteriologist who recently joined our group) has been following up Sertic's old observation (apparently quite correct) that acriflavine will agglutinate flagellated Salmonellas of phase 2 but not phase 1. This must bespeak a fundamental chemical difference in the flagella which we hope to be able to investigate. We have been trying to find previous work on the basis of acriflavine agglutination, or of dye-agglutination of bacteria generally, but can find very little on this subject. I am writing to you in the hope you may have accumulated a bibliography and would be willing to give us the advantage of it.

We have been using your book in our course this year, and the students seem to like it very much. The only reason I did not make it an obligatory assignment is, as you may guess, its unreasonable price. I realize this is largely out of your hands, but I know of no other channel through which to register such a comment. I cannot help feeling the production cost was made unduly high by such features as glossy paper throughout.

A few typos have been noticed. F. Kauffmann's name is misspelled throughout (e.g. p. 116). I think there were some other equally minor ones, but I can't recall them offhand. Oh yes, Piekarski (p. 39). I am sorry you quoted MGB as a publication, as it is not accessible to the public (but not everyone agrees with me). And Browning (p. 186) did not work with bacteria. Of course I only mention these things as basis for corrections in further editions if any: as a whole, it looks quite clean.

Sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg